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Security Council

Seventy-second year

Provisional

8007th meeting
Thursday, 20 July 2017, 10 a.m.
New York

President:	Mr. Liu Jieyi	(China)
Members:	Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	Mr. Inchauste Jordán
	Egypt	Mr. Moustafa
	Ethiopia	Mr. Alemu
	France	Mr. Delattre
	Italy	Mr. Biagini
	Japan	Mr. Bessho
	Kazakhstan	Mr. Sadykov
	Russian Federation	Mr. Safronkov
	Senegal	Mr. Seck
	Sweden	Mr. Skoog
	Ukraine	Mr. Yelchenko
	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Mr. Rycroft
	United States of America	Ms. Sison
	Uruguay	Mr. Rosselli

Agenda

Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts

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The meeting was called to order at 10.05 a.m.

Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted.

Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts

The President (*spoke in Chinese*): The Security Council will now begin its consideration of the item on its agenda.

Members of the Council have before them document S/2017/615, which contains the text of a draft resolution submitted by Ethiopia, France, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Senegal, Sweden, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America.

The Council is ready to proceed to the vote on the draft resolution before it. I shall put the draft resolution to the vote now.

A vote was taken by show of hands.

In favour:

Bolivia (Plurinational State of), China, Egypt, Ethiopia, France, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Russian Federation, Senegal, Sweden, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Uruguay

The President (*spoke in Chinese*): The draft resolution received 15 votes in favour. The draft resolution has been adopted unanimously as resolution 2368 (2017).

I shall now give the floor to those members of the Council who wish to make statements following the voting.

Ms. Sison (United States of America): With today's adoption of resolution 2368 (2017), the Security Council is taking another important step towards helping to defeat the Islamic State in Iraq and the Sham (ISIS) and Al-Qaida. We thank the other sponsors of the resolution for their support.

There is no higher priority for the United States, which is why we are leading a 72-member coalition that is making great strides in liberating territory from the grip of ISIS. The United States has been supporting the Iraqi Government in its effort to push ISIS out of Mosul, and ISIS's last strongholds in Syria are coming under intense pressure. But even as it is losing ground in Syria and Iraq, the threat that it represents is far from over. ISIS will continue looking to spread its ideology and radicalize new groups around the world. It will create new offshoots in new places; fighters who trained with ISIS in Syria are now starting to return home.

The Security Council has to show that it can adapt to such changing threats, and that is the goal of the resolution we have adopted today. Its provisions recognize the importance of focusing not just on ISIS but also on its affiliates, wherever they may emerge. We have also redoubled our commitment to enforcing these measures. The resolution urges for more international cooperation in cutting off terrorist funding, preventing terrorists from travelling and stopping such groups from acquiring arms. In order to help ensure that those sanctions are being fully and fairly implemented, we have reaffirmed our support to the Analytical Support and Sanctions Monitoring Team of the Committee pursuant to resolutions 1267 (1999), 1989 (2011) and 2253 (2015) concerning ISIL (Da'esh), Al-Qaida and associated individuals, groups, undertakings and entities and to its Ombudsperson. In another important step, in today's resolution the Security Council added eight new individuals and entities to the 1267 Committee's sanctions list. They include ISIS leaders in South-East Asia, foreign fighters from the Caucasus, illicit money exchange businesses and ISIS-affiliated terrorist groups in Syria, and there will be more designations to come.

In order to make the best use of this tool, the Security Council should regularly add to the sanctions list the names of any new ISIS- or Al-Qaida-affiliated individuals or groups, wherever they may be in the world. But while implementing the sanctions is essential, it is only one part of a broader strategy for defeating ISIS and the violent, extremist ideology that feeds it. All States Members of the United Nations should work together to prevent groups from declaring allegiance to ISIS and becoming one of its affiliates. We must mobilize action to address the issue of former ISIS fighters who return or relocate to other countries. We cannot allow them to become a new threat elsewhere.

And we must do more, especially here at the United Nations, to help countries prevent and counter violent extremism before it takes root. In order to do so, it is essential that we build strong partnerships with civil society, faith leaders, youth and local communities. ISIS, along with similar groups, threaten not just our

security, but also our values, such as tolerance, human dignity and freedom. For that reason, in every region of the world, people of all faiths have come together to condemn terrorism. The United States will continue to lead that effort. Today's unanimous vote reinforces the global resolve to defeat terrorism wherever it is found.

Mr. Safronkov (Russian Federation) (*spoke in Russian*): The Russian Federation supported resolution 2368 (2017), on sanctions related to the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) and Al-Qaida. Taking into account the unprecedented magnitude and scale of the threats to international relations from those groups, we concur with our colleagues from the United States. Today yet another important step has been taken towards strengthening the counter-terrorism regime. Now all States, without exception, are called upon to fully and conscientiously comply with the provisions of today's key resolution. There can be no double standards.

We are deeply troubled by the fact that, due to the positions of some delegations, Council members' concerns were not fully taken into account in reaching agreement on the adoption of a text on such a key issue as jointly combating terrorism. I am chiefly referring to the Russian proposal to impose a comprehensive ban on any trade and economic links with any territories under ISIL control. We must bear in mind that terrorists deal with wide-ranging, cross-border smuggling in hydrocarbons and other goods. Illegal business provides them with tens of millions of dollars in revenue on a monthly basis. That revenue is used to purchase munitions and weapons, which makes it all the more difficult to apply coercive measures against them. We firmly advocate that we continue to such measures, as well as other others, in order to ensure a full financial, material and technical isolation of terrorist groups.

We are equally confounded by the fact that the text does not include a reference to Article 103 of the Charter of the United Nations, which is something that we insisted upon. Article 103 refers to the primacy of the Charter over other international treaties. The relevance of such a reference based on the need to enhance the authority of the Security Council's binding decisions with regard to sanctions and to ensure that they are fully implemented nationally by all branches of Government. Our firm position is that we must ensure full and complete compliance with the Charter. Without that, it will be impossible to ensure the integrity of the sanctions regime. We firmly believe that, in order to make consistent progress in combating terrorists, we need to genuinely dovetail the efforts of all stakeholders. Therein lies the sole way of ensuring a full and definitive end of the terrorist threat to global stability. We stand ready to engage in collective efforts to that end.

Mr. Alemu (Ethiopia): Ethiopia welcomes the unanimous adoption of resolution 2368 (2017), on the review of the sanctions regime on Al-Qaida and the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) under resolution 2253 (2015). I would like to express my appreciation to the penholder for successfully steering the review process, and to the members of the Council for their flexibility. We are pleased to have co-sponsored the resolution.

Ethiopia finds itself in one of the most volatile regions of Africa, which is facing increasing levels of terrorism and radicalization. Therefore, Ethiopia is firmly committed to combating the scourge of terrorism in order to ensure its own peace and security in the region, where Al-Shabaab and other terrorist groups affiliated with ISIL and Al-Qaida are very active. Ethiopia recognizes that its fight against terrorism cannot be effective without forging the required regional and international cooperation. In the light of that, sanctions are indeed one of the most important tools at the disposal of the Security Council in the fight against terrorism. That is why the sanctions regime against ISIL and Al-Qaida remains very important.

The report of the Secretary-General (S/2017/467), as well as the reports of the Monitoring Team, have highlighted the impact of resolution 2253 (2015) with regard to the criminalization of terrorist financing, measures taken to freeze the assets of those supporting terrorist organizations or individual terrorists, increased integration of financial intelligence into counter-terrorism work, raising and moving funds, as well as other matters related to the fight against terrorism. In that connection, we consider vital the inclusion in resolution 2368 (2017) of the issue of addressing foreign terrorist fighters and returnees, language against terrorism financing, updated language on the work of the Ombudsperson, all while recalling recent Council resolutions and their transitory provisions, which have strengthened the sanctions regime. We believe that, if the resolution is properly implemented, it would definitely serve as a very good tool in the fight against ISIL, Al-Qaida and their affiliates. We hope that it will contribute to promoting international peace and security.

Mr. Bessho (Japan): Japan welcomes the unanimous adoption of resolution 2368 (2017), which we co-sponsored. I would like to express my gratitude to the United States for taking the lead on drafting this important resolution.

We have witnessed a large number of terrorist attacks around the world since the adoption of resolution 2253 (2015), in December 2015, and tactics are evolving. It was clear that we had to step up our measures by reviewing resolution 2253 (2015).

There are a number of new paragraphs in today's resolution that address recent terrorist trends. I would especially like to highlight paragraph 39, on returning and relocating foreign terrorist fighters, and paragraph 36 on passenger name records (PNR). While the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant is experiencing military setbacks in Iraq and Syria, their threat is spreading globally. Foreign terrorist fighters are returning to their countries of origin and transiting through, travelling to or relocating in other Member States.

For example, as the Secretary-General's report of 31 May (S/2017/467) indicates, the threat level has intensified in South-East Asia due to returnees and relocating fighters going to the region. Given the global nature of the phenomenon, all Member States must enhance their measures against returning and relocating foreign terrorist fighters. In addressing the issue, we must bear in mind that the tactics of foreign terrorist fighters are evolving, including through the use of broken travel techniques. Passenger name records are one effective measure to detect foreign terrorist fighters. Today's resolution is the first to call upon Member States to use and develop PNRs. Such documents include passengers' booking information, including itineraries, the names of traveling companions and payment methods. By analyzing PNRs, we can uncover suspicious travel patterns, the flow of terrorist actors and funds and, ultimately, terrorist networks. I stress the importance of PNRs and encourage all Member States that have not yet done so to employ PNR systems as soon as possible. To my knowledge, only 15 of the 193 Member States have introduced PNR systems thus far.

In conclusion, I stress the importance of moving from adoption to implementation. Japan is always ready to work closely with other countries to enhance their capacities in this area. We must unite against the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant and other terrorist groups by implementing today's resolution, as well as related resolutions, in order to further enhance our counter-terrorism measures.

Mr. Moustafa (Egypt) (*spoke in Arabic*): First of all, I would like to thank the delegation of the United States for its efforts to facilitate negotiations on the very important resolution that we have just adopted, resolution 2368 (2017). In our opinion, it is one of the Security Council's most important resolutions with regard to combating terrorism. It goes without saying that the resolution contains very substantial provisions, such as those, for example, that are linked to the sanctions imposed upon Da'esh and Al-Qaida, as well as on individuals, groups, entities and institutions that are affiliated with those groups. Moreover, we also note the significant paragraphs that commit all countries to prevent the financing of terrorism and the provision of arms and any other support intended for terrorist ends.

We would like to confirm very briefly two very important points.

First, it is crucial that our efforts to combat terrorism be successful. We must adopt a global approach based on combating terrorism, wherever it is found, and tackle its root causes without any exception.

Secondly, we reiterate that, since we joined the Security Council, we have noted that its resolutions, especially with respect to combating terrorism. It is critical for the Security Council to hold countries that do not respect its resolutions accountable. It is inadmissible and irrational for the Council to discover that, after adopting resolutions that establish a legal and operational framework for combating terrorism, regimes or groups in small countries undermine and destroy that framework. Those regimes continuously and flagrantly violate the Council's resolutions without any fear of being held to account. They continue to finance terrorism, provide arms and safe havens to terrorists.

In that regard, I need only cite as evidence the regime of Qatar, which has embraced a policy that favours terrorism. That regime has financed terrorism, provided arms to terrorists, given them refuge and incited terrorism, whether in Libya, Syria, Iraq or in other countries. That is the policy of the Qatar regime, which has already violated the Council's resolutions and believes that economic and political interests will shield it from accountability vis-à-vis the Security Council. It is actually a shameful situation that cannot be allowed

to continue. It is inconceivable to witness the silence and absence of political will pn that account shown by members of the Council, whose resolutions must be effective, for which it must work to end all violations.

In conclusion, I reaffirm that Egypt will always respect its commitments. We will always be at the forefront of the fight against terrorism, while respecting international law, human rights and the rule of law.

Mr. Delattre (France) (*spoke in French*): France welcomes the unanimous adoption of resolution 2368 (2017) and thanks the United States for introducing the resolution and for facilitating the important work carried out during negotiations. Last Friday, my country commemorated the one-year anniversary of the tragic attack that occurred in Nice on 14 July 2016, which claimed the lives of 86 individuals of various nationalities. That memory, as well as the many other recent terrorist attacks throughout the world, remind us of the extent to which we must remain united and determined in our struggle against terrorists, who seek to destroy our way of life and freedom.

The work of the international community against Da'esh is showing results, and that is worth underscoring. On the ground, Da'esh has continued to suffer considerable losses in Iraq and Syria. The victory of Iraqi forces in Mosul is underway. That is a major turning point in the development of the conflict, while in Raqqa the battle continues to deprive that group of a safe haven there. Of late, Da'esh has actually attracted fewer foreign terrorist fighters, which is also of key importance.

However, as we know, sometimes all it takes is one individual to carry out a terrorist attack. Such a threat remains complex and multifaceted. We must therefore continue to take measures commensurate with the threat with which we are faced. That means that we must continue to take action in several areas. Combating propaganda and radicalization disseminated over the Internet, blocking the financial sources used by terrorist groups and preparing for the return of foreign terrorist fighters are three top priorities, without exception, in that context.

Resolution 2368 (2017), which we just adopted today, allows us to update the sanctions regime against Da'esh and Al-Qaida, so as to better take into account the development of the threat and revise our priorities, taken as whole. The resolution — and I would like to highlight this point — is a critical step in our shared struggle against terrorism, which must, more than ever, unite us.

Rest assured of the full commitment of France in the struggle against terrorism in general and against Da'esh, in particular.

Mr. Skoog (Sweden): Like others, I would like to thank the United States for introducing resolution 2368 (2017) today, which improves the tools at the disposal of the international community in combating international terrorism.

Sweden welcomes the unanimous adoption of today's resolution and the substantive updates to the sanctions regime. As the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) Da'esh and Al-Qaida develop new strategies and adapt to a changing landscape, the sanctions regime must be adjusted so as to effectively counter the threat posed by those groups. In particular, we welcome the substantive additions with regard to trafficking in persons, while linking the sanctions regime to landmark resolution 2331 (2016). Once again, the Security Council has reaffirmed its intention to consider targeted sanctions for individuals and entities that are associated with ISIL or Al-Qaida and involved in trafficking in persons in areas affected by armed conflict and in sexual violence in conflict.

The Office of the Ombudsperson is a demonstration of the Council's commitment to fulfilling due-process requirements, and the Office is essential to the effectiveness of the sanctions regime. We wish, in that connection, to take this opportunity to congratulate the Ombudsperson, Catherine Marchi-Uhel, on her important appointment as Head of the International, Impartial and Independent Mechanism to Assist in the Investigation and Prosecution of Persons Responsible for the Most Serious Crimes under International Law Committed in the Syrian Arab Republic since March 2011, and thank her for her outstanding work. We ask the Secretary-General and the Secretariat to facilitate a swift transition.

Mr. Biagini (Italy): Italy welcomes the unanimous adoption of resolution 2368 (2017), which it co-sponsored. The resolution is aimed at updating and expanding the international legal framework for the sanctions regime against Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL)/Al-Qaida. Its implementation is now paramount. The sustained military pressure on Da'esh, as well as the depletion of its financial resources, has diminished but not taken away the group's ability to

fund its supporters outside the conflict zone and to carry out attacks on civilians. ISIL can still rely on diversified sources of financing and has drawn income from, inter alia, antiquities smuggling, the exploitation of mineral resources and human trafficking.

Since resolution 2253 (2015) was adopted, the global nature of the threat posed by terrorists has changed and the international community has been confronted with new challenges, including the increasing flow of returning foreign terrorist fighters, the misuse of the Internet and social media by terrorists and the exploitation of human trafficking networks. The new resolution acknowledges and tackles this evolving scenario, which requires a coordinated response by the international community. The United Nations must spearhead the efforts for enhanced cooperation.

In an effort to address and detect the flow of foreign terrorist fighters, some States have adopted and put in place the Advanced Passenger Information and Passenger Name Records tools. These tools are an important means to rein in the movements of terrorists and recruiters more effectively, and we encourage Member States that have not yet done so to take the necessary steps to develop them. Member States have also taken concrete steps to strengthen their relationship with the private sector with a view to responding to terrorist use of information and communication technologies. These public-private partnerships are of paramount importance, not only in countering terrorism financing, but also in detecting and removing terrorist contacts on line.

With regard to the growing concern that terrorists could benefit from trafficking in persons, we regret that it was not possible to have more stringent language in the resolution, stressing the exploitation of human trafficking networks in conflict zones and the potential nexus between that heinous practice and the financing of terrorist organizations.

It is still imperative for the international community to put into place an effective and coordinated response to the terrorist threat for the purpose of eliminating any gaps. It remains crucial to enhance cooperation within and between public sector agencies, both domestically and internationally, and to empower financial intelligence units, law enforcement and intelligence services to improve the exchange of relevant information in a timely manner. Italy is strongly committed to providing international judicial and law enforcement cooperation in the framework of transnational investigations.

Let me conclude by reiterating Italy's strong appreciation of the work conducted by the Analytical Support and Sanctions Monitoring Team and of the significant role played by the Office of the Ombudsperson in its efforts to guarantee due process and transparency.

Mr. Seck (Senegal) (*spoke in French*): Senegal welcomes the adoption of resolution 2368 (2017), which we had the honour of co-sponsoring. I would therefore like to thank and congratulate the delegation of the United States of America on its leadership in the consultations and the other members of the Council for their contributions, which have enriched the text that we have just adopted, with its 105 paragraphs and 3 annexes that expand the scope and the field of action of the fight against terrorism.

The resolution refers, under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations, to numerous and complex measures to be implemented in the fight against the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant, Al-Qaida and individuals, groups and entities that are directly or indirectly related to them. Whether it be on the dark net or the stony ground of the Sahel, the fight against terrorism requires means, technique, coordination and partnership. That is where international cooperation must be intensified in order to help the least privileged States and regions to better understand the complexity of the fight against terrorism and thereby help them become more effective in our common struggle.

Within a context where the international community must more than ever face the problem of the return of foreign terrorist fighters, the resolution strengthens the provisions to fight that pernicious phenomenon. That is the rationale for the support given by Senegal during the consultations, keeping in mind the scope and intensity of the phenomenon in Africa — from the Horn of Africa to the Sahel, including the Lake Chad basin and the Maghreb.

Mr. Rycroft (United Kingdom): The United Kingdom welcomes the unanimous adoption of resolution 2368 (2017), which extends the United Nations sanctions against Da'esh and Al-Qaida. This adoption comes at an important moment in the international community's battle against Da'esh. The liberation of Mosul after a long-fought campaign represents a vital milestone in the battle against Da'esh

in Iraq. I want to pay tribute to the bravery and sacrifice of the Iraqi forces that made this possible. In Syria, operations against Raqqa have begun, and it is only a matter of time before Da'esh see its so-called caliphate crumble. But as we heard from Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs Feltman in his briefing to the Council last month (see S/PV.7962), now is not the time for complacency. Instead, we must remain vigilant and resolute.

The fight against Da'esh will not end in Iraq and Syria. Even as we defeat them there, we must actively confront the threat that Da'esh, Al-Qaida and their affiliates pose in other parts of the world. And that is why United Nations sanctions remain an important tool, and why the United Kingdom welcomes the adoption of this resolution. It tightens our stranglehold on those groups and ensures that our measures are fit for purpose. In particular, we welcome the eight new designations adopted today. These designations include terrorist outfits, money-laundering companies, terrorist leaders and foreign terrorist fighters. The diversity of those fighters — from Syria, Iraq, Russia and Indonesia — really underscores that this is a global threat that requires a global response.

The United Kingdom continues to work with its partners, not just on sanctions, but in all our efforts to counter the terrorist threat. That means bringing Da'esh to justice, shutting down terrorist financing, managing the risk posed by foreign terrorist fighters and tackling extremism on line. This is a fight for the long haul, but together we will defeat the scourge of terrorism and our collective values will prevail, and the resolution that we have adopted today is a vital part of that effort.

The President (China) (*spoke in Chinese*): I shall now make a statement in my national capacity.

China welcomes the unanimous adoption by the Council of resolution 2368 (2017). Terrorism is the common enemy of humankind. China supports the international community in coordinating its activities and in adopting to an integrated and effective approach to enhance cooperation against terrorism, especially the use of the Internet by terrorists to spread, incite and organize terrorist activities, terrorist financing and the return of terrorist fighters.

In the realm of counter-terrorism, we must adhere to uniform standards, fully leverage the leading role of the United Nations and the Security Council and enhance international coordination effectively. The Committee established pursuant to resolutions 1267 (1999), 1989 (2011) and 2253 (2015) concerning ISIL (Da'esh), Al-Qaida and associated individuals, groups, undertakings and entities is an important counter-terrorism mechanism of the United Nations and the Security Council. China supports the Committee in enhancing communications with the countries concerned and in strengthening cooperation with regional and subregional counter-terrorism mechanisms, in accordance with the mandate given to it by the Council. The Committee must constantly improve its work effectiveness so that it can make a greater contribution to advancing the counter-terrorism cause.

We also hope that Member States and the Secretariat will strictly comply with the relevant resolution and the Committee's rules of procedure, and continue to support and cooperate with the Committee in its work so that, together, we can defend the authority and effectiveness of the sanctions regime.

I now resume my functions as President of the Security Council.

There are no more names inscribed on the list of speakers.

The meeting rose at 10.40 a.m.